

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-20 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 FRB-03

INR-11 NSAE-00 RSC-01 TRSE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12 SP-03

CIEP-03 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 NSC-07 SS-20 STR-08

CEA-02 L-03 H-03 AGR-20 PA-04 USIA-15 PRS-01 DRC-01

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R 092115Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1423

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, IBRD, DR

SUBJECT: IMPRESSIONS OF VISITING IBRD TEAM

1. FOR PAST FEW DAYS IBRD TEAM FROM WASHINGTON HAS BEEN HERE IN PREPARATION FOR NEW BANK PAPER ON THE DR. THE TEAM IS HEADED BY RAUL CAMPOS AND INCLUDES LUIS LANDAU WHO SEEMS TO BE INTERESTED IN PUBLIC HEALTH AND GERSHON KADDAR WHO APPEARS TO BE FOCUSING MORE ON AGRICULTURE.

2. IN VARIOUS CONVERSATIONS WHICH THE USAID DIRECTOR AND THE CONOMIC COUNSELOR HAVE HAD WITH THE TEAM, THE FOLLOWING THEMES SEEM TO RUN THROUGH THEIR COMMENTS AND WILL PRESUMABLY BE REFLECTED IN THEIR ULTIMATE PAPER.

(A) EXCHANGE RATE REFORM - CAMPOS SAYS HE IS GIVING UP ON EXCHANGE RATE REFORM BECAUSE HE FEELS THAT THE PRESIDENT, FOR POLITICAL OR OTHER REASONS, WILL NOT ACT IN THIS AREA. WHEN QUERIED SPECIFICALLY AS TO WHETHER OR NOT HE HAD BROACHED THE SUBJECT WITH THE GODR, CAMPOS REPLIED THAT HE HAD NOT.

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(B) INDUSTRIAL INCENTIVE LAW - CAMPOS SAID THAT HE

WAS ALSO NOT REPEAT NOT GOING TO PUSH FURTHER FOR CHANGES
IN THIS LAW FOR THE SAME REASON AS HIS ABSTENTION ON
EXCHANGE RATE REFORM, NAMELY, HE DID NOT REALISTICALLY
SEE ANY POSSIBILITY OF CHANGE.

(C) FISCAL REFORM - CAMPOS SAID THE MAIN THRUST OF
THIS PAPER WOULD DEAL WITH FISCAL REFORM. WEHN ASKED
WHY THIS AREA IS VIEW OF FAIRLY GOOD GODR PERFORMANCE AS
LATIN AMERICA GOES, HE ADMITTED THAT PERFORMANCE HAD BEEN
GOOD BUT FELT THAT IT NEEDED RATIONALIZING. GODR
OUGHT, HE FELT, FURTHER THINK THROUGH ITS IMPORT DUTIES WITH
THE VIEW TOWARD DECIDING WHETHER THE PURPOSES WERE FOR
PROTECTION OR REVENUE.

(D) AGRICULTURE - TEAM SEEMED TO BE PARTICULARLY
INTERESTED IN AGRICULTURE. CAMPOS AND KADDAR COMMENTED
SEPARATELY ON THE IMPORTANCE OF WATER AS A CONSTRAINT ON
DEVELOPMENT AND BOTH ALSO COMMENTED SEPARATELY ABOUT SUGAR
CANE TO THE EFFECT IT WAS NOT REPEAT NOT THE MOST EFFICIENT
CROP FOR UTILIZING WATER. KADDAR AFFIRMED THAT DOMINICANS SHOULD
PERHAPS CONTINUE TO PUT NEW LAND INTO SUGAR CANE WHICH WAS WATERED BY
RAINFALL, BUT HE FELT THAT ANY NEW LAND WATERED BY IRRIGATION SHOULD
GO INTO CROPS MAKING BETTER USE OF WATER. WHEN PRESSED FOR EXAMPLES,
HE MENTIONED TOMATOES.

(E) LAND REFORM - HAVING VISITED ONE LAND REFORM PROJECT AND
HAVING STARTED LOOKING INTO RICE PRODUCTION, THE TEAM SEEMED TO HAVE
A BETTER IMPRESSION OF LAND REFORM RESULTS IN THE DR THAN THAT SHARED
BY MOST OUTSIDERS.
HURWITCH

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